



News Release

WISCONSIN ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Public Affairs Office
2400 Wright Street
Madison, WI 53704

Contact: Lt. Col. Tim Donovan
608-242-3050
Cell: 608-516-1777

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nineteen soldiers graduate OCS Saturday; Academy to honor "Hall of Fame" inductees

Nineteen members of the Wisconsin Army National Guard are expected to graduate Saturday (Aug 20, 2005) from the Wisconsin Military Academy (WMA) Officer Candidate School (OCS), located on the grounds of Fort McCoy, and four Wisconsin National Guard veterans will be inducted into WMA's Hall of Fame later the same day.

Keynote speaker at the graduation ceremony will be Maj. Gen. Al Wilkening, Wisconsin's Adjutant General.

The event begins at 9 a.m. Saturday in the academy's Dailey Hall, 90 S. 10th Ave., Ft. McCoy, and will be attended by families and friends of the officer candidates, as well as leaders of the Wisconsin National Guard.

The 19 officer candidates have completed 14 months of intense training, including a pair of two-week annual training periods and more than a year of regular monthly training sessions at the academy. Fifteen members of the class will take their oaths of office as second lieutenants Saturday; four others will delay accepting their commissions until a later date, including one mobilized soldier who will be leaving nearby Volk Field Saturday with his unit for pre-deployment training before going overseas.

Four soldiers with long and distinguished associations with the academy will be honored in a separate ceremony at 1 p.m. Saturday when they are inducted into the Wisconsin Military Academy Hall of Fame. They were selected based on their contributions to the academy and with professional military education in the state of Wisconsin.

— more —

OCS and WMA Hall of Fame

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Hall of Fame Inductees are:

- Col. (Retired) Roland “Rollie” Alger, Phelps, who most recently served as commander of the 426th Regiment (Leadership) and WMA from July 1997 until September 2000.
- Sgt. 1st Class (Retired) Paul Hill, Waukesha, who served as an integral part of the OCS and NCO programs at WMA from 1984 until 2000.
- Col. (Retired) Larry Olson, Marshall, an Army veteran with service in Vietnam and a lengthy career in the Wisconsin Army Guard, including chief of staff in the state headquarters.
- 1st Sgt. (Retired) Roy Vangilder, Rice Lake, who served in the Guard from 1963 to 1994, including his assignment to WMA as an instructor for senior NCO training courses.

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